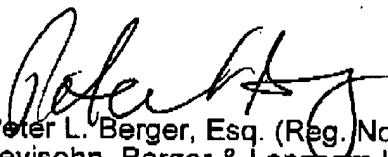


REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given to the above identified Official Action, and reconsideration of this application and the amendment submitted on December 19, 2003 is respectfully requested.

In view of the interview and amendments made on December 19, 2003, it is respectfully submitted that the current claims as now constituted are patentable.

Respectfully submitted,



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